

NEWS NOTES

●A MAN jumped on the back of an off-duty policeman in New York City the other day, stuck a knife to his neck and said, "Take me to Cuba."

●ROBERT J. Affeldt was the director of the conciliation division of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Equal Opportunity. He quit recently, with this comment:

"I thought the Nixon administration was serious about enforcing the law -- not enforcing it in a radical and ultra-liberal manner--but simply enforcing it.

"All I expected was a consistent application of its 'law and order' precept, which it has emphasized so much against social dissenters. It seems, however, that when it disagrees with the law it takes a different view of 'law and order.'"

●UP in Binnewater, NY, some enterprising gentlemen has established an underground city for 2000 persons to be used by corporate brass in case of a nuclear attack. The New York Underground Facilities is supported by corporate clients such as IBM and Mobil Oil. According to a story in the Washington Evening Star, "In case of nuclear attack. . . the VIPs of client companies will be alerted to the likelihood of disaster weeks before via a special industrial early warning system. It's based. . . on a probability scale with a range of 5-0. Should the corporate count-down go to four. . . each company's most valuable execs would head for the hill. When it reaches three, the vice-presidents are brought in. At two, the engineers. Then, presumably, everyone breaks out the martinis and waits."

●FREE enterprise may be hazardous to your health. America ranks 13th in infant mortality among industrialized nations, 7th in maternal mortality, 18th in life expectancy for men and 11th in life expectancy for women. By all indices, Americans are less healthy than they were 20 years ago.

●MEANWHILE, the doctors are flourishing. The Treasury Department reports that half of some 3000 doctors whose tax returns it checked had failed to report a "substantial amount" of income from federal medicare payments. Some of the returns under-reported as much as \$100,000. For a group that opposes creeping socialism in medicine, they seem to be making the most of it.

●IF you are involved in a political campaign this fall, you will want to get hold of a copy of Vote Power, a campaigner's handbook published by the Movement for a New Congress. Reviews the 1970 campaign, gives a case study from a primary earlier this year, discusses adding new voters to the rolls, door-to-door canvassing, election day techniques, fund-raising, polling research etc. \$1.50 (Prentice-Hall, Inc. Englewood Cliffs, NJ).

●MAYOR John Lindsay has proposed that New York state elections use a preferential ballot, on which the voter would list candidates in the order of his choice, rather than merely checking the one that he likes the most.

●SEN. George McGovern is getting ready to run for President. He has opened a small office for this purpose, located near the Capitol.

●ONE of the participants in a recent fund-raising party for Edmund Muskie in Los Angeles was Fred Hartley of Union Oil Co. Union was responsible for the Santa Barbara oil spill.

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Strays from the silent majority

THE conventional wisdom these days assigns the 'Silent Majority' to Richard Nixon, but several recent primaries and the latest Lou Harris poll have punched a number of holes in this most popular of contemporary political theories. While the press continues to talk about the love of Middle America for the administration, Middle America is showing signs of straying. While it is dangerous to draw too broad a conclusion from a handful of primaries and polls, they do suggest that the image of the American electorate moving dramatically to the right has been overblown.

For example, in the most recent primary elections, Rep. George Fallon of Baltimore, chairman of the House Public Works Committee and a 20-year House veteran, went down to defeat at the hands of an anti-war lawyer named Paul Sarbanes, who hit hard at Fallon's involvement in the pernicious highway lobby on the Hill. Fallon, who had once said that "I'm strongly opposed to any mass transit proposal which has an effect of limiting, curtailing or slowing down the established federal aid highway program" was defeated by a man who spoke of mass transit and the need for clean air as well as dealing with the Vietnam issue.

In Massachusetts, the Rev. Robert Drinin defeated Rep. Phillip H. Philbin, the 72-

year-old vice chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, after a masterful campaign that ended 28 years on Capitol Hill for Philbin. Father Drinin talked peace, but also canvassed tens of thousands of households, learned the issues about which the individual voters were concerned and then, with the aid of computers, bombarded these voters with material on the issues that bothered them. While fewer people turned out to vote in the rest of the state than had been the case in the 1966 primary, Drinin's workers increased the vote in their district. The district had 6000 more voters than in 1966. Said Drinin: "The conclusion seems clear that the belief that suburban communities are conservative and power blocks for the Republican Party just isn't the case."

There were losses, too. Henry Jackson won renomination. So did Hubert Humphrey. But then, how much of a loss is it when a nearly unknown black candidate in Minnesota can pull 25% of the Democratic vote in a race with the 1968 Democratic presidential candidate?

Admittedly the number of victories involved will make only a slight dent in the philosophical armor plate of Congress, but they do indicate the potential to effect-

(Please turn to next page)



vote cont'd

ively block the spread of Nixon-style rightism (in the electoral arena at least) and help to give lie to the Richard Scammon-Ben Wattenberg do-nothing approach to politics.

There are a plethora of issues available to the political left and now that it has become less hung up on single issues, it is beginning to discover coalitions and symbiotic issues with real appeal. Besides the obvious issues of war, pollution and poverty, there are interest rates, tight housing, the problems of the aged, freeways, union wage demands, inadequate medical services and all the scum of eutrophying capitalism -- from vacuous breakfast food to poison in the river. The task is to make these issues predominate over the defensive ones upon which the White House has chosen to make its stand: racism and repression.

Although the press gives the impression that the Nixon policy is making significant headway and although the morning papers are filled with glowing reports of Surious the Loud's latest foray into the countryside, there is contrary evidence to suggest that Nixon is having as much trouble getting into America as out of Vietnam. The most recent Harris survey finds that Nixon "inspires confidence personally in the White House" among only 35% of the public, a rating that has been dropping steadily since a high of 61% in April 1969. Significantly, for a man who has placed so much emphasis on media manipulation, 48% of the survey's respondents reacted negatively to the President's TV speeches and press conferences. Only 42% responded favorably.

The press cooperates vigorously with a president's effort to put across an image of popularity. Reporters thrill to the sight of the man in the White House wading into carefully selected crowds or the Vice President being cheered by fat-cat dinner partners. They impart the desired image to the reader and the viewer. But behind the cheering are the people who don't go to fund-raising dinners and who don't tromp down to the airport to greet the President. They are the ones who win elections, and unless Mr. Harris is far wronger than he's ever been, the President is not winning them.

DAY CARE CENTER

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Take acidophilus bacteria to lunch

BESIDES the well-known advantages of nursing over bottle-feeding (the natural antibodies, the better nutritional value of human milk, the benefits of being unpasteurized, the pleasure for mother and child), breast milk has still another benefit: the newborn child receives good bacteria (i.e. intestinal flora or acidophilus) with the first sip. These good bacteria grow in the small intestines and provide the child with vitamin K (necessary for proper bloodclotting) and some of the about fifteen B vitamins.

Though the B vitamins are necessary for every cell in the body, they are particularly important for clear skin and calm nerves. In other words, the good bacteria, by providing babies with some B vitamins, help prevent diaper rash and colic and crankiness.

Not only babies need these good bacteria, everyone does. Much of the bulk in the intestines is bacteria, which live on the unabsorbed food. If the wrong bacteria predominate, the toxins they produce will easily pass through the intestinal walls, irritating the body and causing bad breath and/or excessive body odor. Within the intestines, the bad bacteria give off gas and may cause either diarrhea or constipation.

You are probably asking yourself, "How can I help the good bacteria vanquish the bad bacteria in my intestine?"

The answer is yogurt. Under the right conditions, friendly yogurt bacteria (bulgarius) break milk sugar (lactose) down to lactic acid. When eaten, this lactic acid kills the toxin-producing bacteria, which prefer an alkaline environment, and feeds the good intestinal bacteria (acidophilus), which make vitamins for us. The yogurt bacteria (bulgarius) themselves don't survive in the intestines, but their motto is "Healthy humans over my dead body."

Acne is often cleared up by eating yogurt. If it doesn't work perhaps the rest of the diet has too much refined foods such as candy, pastries, sodas, ice cream, and noodles. These are literally addictive. Once they are cut out and more fresh produce and other natural foods eaten, there is a continually declining desire for them.

Antibodies for acne may help in the short run. But they kill the good bacteria along with the bad bacteria, eventually causing more skin problems than they have cured. In fact, a cup of yogurt has an antibiotic value equal to 14 units of penicillin, without the side effects. (When antibiotics are taken for other reasons, lots of yogurt or acidophilus culture should also be taken.)

Because yogurt is predigested by friendly bulgarius bacteria, it is utilized in the human body three times as fast as plain milk. Also, the acid medium of yogurt promotes absorption of minerals. More calcium is absorbed from yogurt and buttermilk, which supply both fat and lactic acid than from sweet whole milk.

The sugar in the preserves of the flavored yogurt is alkaline-forming and counteracts the benefits of the acidity of plain yogurt. So eat yogurt plain or flavor it yourself with carob fruit powder (sort of like malted chocolate but more nutritious and it is naturally sweet), raw nuts or sunflower seeds or even fresh fruit.

(Another way to encourage the

acidophilus bacteria is to take whey powder, which is mainly lactose. Dr. Kellogg (Battle Creek used to be a natural foods mecca!) said that with lactose the gas will first increase, but later will decrease and disappear. Also, that the stools will become less offensive and the bowels will move more often. This is not diarrhea, rather the "normal" once-a-day routine of civilized people is actually constipation.)

There has been recently some bad publicity about yogurt. Namely that if rats are fed nothing but commercially produced yogurt, they will be healthy except for cataracts. Until the researchers noticed the clouded eyes, their findings were that, "Yogurt alone appeared to be a complete diet." That yogurt isn't a complete diet isn't surprising. If you eat other foods along with yogurt you will be OK. Let's see if the danger of artificial colorings and flavorings (besides cyclamates) and of the hormones fed to beef will be revealed on the front pages. These cause cancer and birth defects and sterility in rats.

Commercially produced yogurt may have additives and it costs a lot, so you may want to make your own. Heat milk to 110 degrees, give or take 5 degrees. If you lack a thermometer, the milk should be lukewarm, but not hot, on your wrist. Stir in 2 - 6 tablespoons of yogurt to each quart. Pour into pre-warmed wide-mouth jars. In the summer it is often warm enough to cover with blankets for insulation. In winter a radiator or a pilot light will probably be just the right temperature. Another method is to pre-warm a thermos bottle and let the warm milk and culture incubate in that for a few hours or overnight. Don't worry, after the first few times you get the feel for it.

After 2 or maybe even 4 hours you can see that the liquid is firm when the jar is tilted. It will get firmer with refrigeration.

Clear whey may become visible on the surface if disturbed during incubation or if it incubates too long. This may give it a more tart flavor but it is OK. You may want to get a hot-plate incubator with four bowls and lids or the large aluminum incubator with lid that holds tall jars. Dried yogurt culture, in envelopes, can be used instead of actual yogurt. These refinements aren't necessary, and they are expensive.

If you still have liquid milk after 4 or 5 hours, it may be because the milk contained residues of antibiotics fed to the cows, which killed the yogurt culture.

Dried milk can be added to skim milk to give it more body. Or dried milk can be used alone, though it lacks the amino acid lysine so it is not a complete protein. If you don't eat animal products, you can make yogurt from a soy milk (soy powder and water, simmered for 15 minutes and strained through a double layer of cheesecloth).

Yogurt is a staple food for many peoples around the world. It can be made of milk from cows, goats, sheep, mares or camels (and soy beans).

For simplicity, clean insides, freebie vitamins, and good taste, yogurt can't be beat.

PAULA AYERS

Arthur Waskow's new book

MALCOLM KOVACS

RUNNING RIOT, the new book by Washington-based activist and historian Arthur Waskow, is sub-titled "A Journey Through Official Disasters and Creative Disorder in American Society." Published by Herder and Herder at \$5.95, the book might more accurately be described as a collection of Waskow's writings from and about the sixties.

At the beginning of his new book, Waskow describes his--and many people's--long journey during the last decade: "It has been a journey for me, from the days when I felt like a citizen possessed of all the power the civics books said I had--but was in reality a bureaucratized checker of other people's footnotes and myself a footnote to the country's politics--toward a place where I know myself unable to control the great institutions, but precisely from that knowledge begin to reach out to my powerless brothers and sisters to build some independence and dignity, self-hood and power of our own. From a timid bureaucrat toward an entrepreneur withchutzpah. From a stubborn but narrow liberal who praised nonviolent protest and the 'activator vocation' because they might get the government moving. . . toward an angry, more subtle and more flexible radical who wants the people to take control of their own schools and factories, and learn to run them democratically--against the government."

Waskow's essays take us through the major events and themes of the sixties: the sit-ins, civil rights marches, the Pentagon march, the Chicago Convention, the Presidential elections. His article on police-community control is excellent. He offers some good appraisals of major movement strategies similar to but often not as good as his piece in the *DC Gazette* in May on the May 9th debacle on the Ellipse to protest the murders at Kent State and the invasion of Cambodia.

Too often Waskow fails to come across in these articles, even though he was a planner and participant in many of the events he writes about. In writing about the Chicago convention or the Pentagon march, for example, there is too much testing of Waskow's theses of politics and too little sense of politics and people of the events.

The articles also make clear how much influence the Fellows at the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) have on one another. Waskow has been at IPS for most of the sixties and his writings reveal the influence of his IPS colleagues and their work, like Milton Kotler's work on neighborhood government, Mark Raskin's New Party activity, and Ricard Barnett's writing on the national security managers.

In his undated article (and one must excuse his Madison Avenue title), "Where the Peace Action Is," Waskow lays out four areas of action to which he has committed himself. They are electoral peace politics (thus his representation of DC at the 1968 Democratic convention to fight for the minority platform on Vietnam), community organizing (thus his activity and interest in Adams-Morgan becoming a community with its own community government, including community control of the Washington police), on direct resistance (thus his tax resistance, his activity in anti-draft actions and his proposal for a massive sit-in last May 9th) and, finally, in transnational action, collaborating with "participatory futurists" to unite the movement across national boundaries.

This is enough political activity for several ordinary people, but Waskow has been into all this and more, including his current activity in the National Jewish Organizing Project, an attempt to create a radical Jewish sense of community and politics. As part of this project it was Waskow who planned and organized the Freedom Seders of the last two years.

For those of us who agree with Waskow on the need for drastic changes but who also know

that the revolution will not come tomorrow nor will it by itself transform us when (and if) it does come, there are important things we must do with our lives to begin to make our revolution now. We can begin to do it, as Waskow says, "by attempting to build chunks of the future in the present. But not to build them with the help of presently powerful institutions; to build them from the bottom, without the permission of the powerful and often against the laws or the mores of the present order." If we don't begin to build our counter-futures for ourselves in today's counter-culture, the old order will make our futures for us, futures even more oppressive for all of us than the present.

Though the distinction may not exist for the Justice Department, Waskow is a radical reformer rather than a revolutionary. Waskow describes himself as a proponent of "creative disorder," by which he means distinctly non-violent methods of change such as sit-ins, rent strikes, and--increasingly--actions like small scale and large scale civil disobedience. In this respect Waskow remains a disciple of the religious non-violent tactics of Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

After the 1967 Pentagon siege Waskow wrote: "I think that if we stay inside truly legitimate bounds (based on our own moral sense), we will be able to bring the press and the country to join us" because "just as those who once condemned mass marches as 'irresponsible' now applaud them as 'moderate,' so those who are now horrified by resistance will come to understand it." He adds somewhat equivocally, ". . . the taking up of arms is never wholly justified (though perhaps defensible). . . we are acting as if violence were not legitimate." Resistance--especially draft resistance--has grown rapidly as Waskow forecasted but the use of the means of violence is also seen by an increasing number of radicals, like the Black Panthers, as stemming from their sense of what is required for survival.

Waskow's essays discuss general directions the movements (he acknowledges that there is no longer a single movement) are taking, but surprisingly he says virtually nothing about women's liberation, the American economy or ideas on radicalizing the American underclass. His final remarks are in a three page article awkwardly titled "An Agenda: That is, FOR ACTION." Here he cites but leaves virtually undeveloped his ideas on areas to work in the

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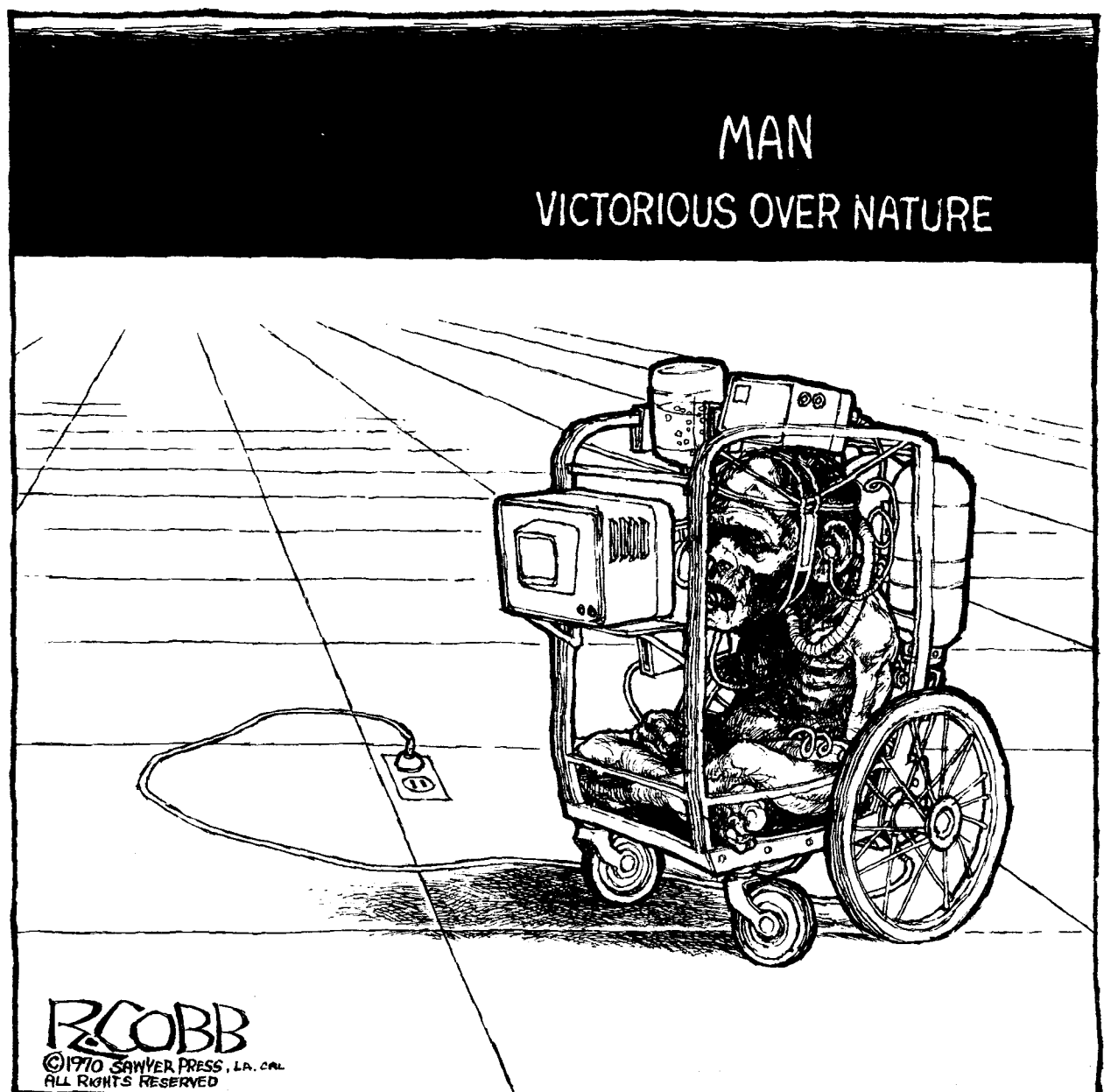
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future, including what he calls family liberation, worker-community control, ecology-technology, and celebration/liberation.

One is left with the feeling that Waskow is ambivalent about just how fundamental change can take place in America. Is the best approach to work to "Tame GM," as the Campaign GM slogan put it, or to smash GM? Waskow suggests at times that the Establishment is intelligent enough to reform itself but his evidence frequently contradicts this assertion.

The seventies will be the time to test whether America's isolated and powerful leaders can respond to the demands for non-violent change. The record by the end of the sixties indicates that their response is likely to be lip service to reform--if even that--combined with the iron fist of repression.



DYEING

BLOCK PRINTING ON FABRIC

Designs cut from linoleum blocks can easily be made suitable for printing on fabric using FARQUHAR DYES.

First of all the lino block should be given a solid wood backing; 3/4-inch plywood is eminently suitable. Scraps of wood can easily be obtained from local sources such as carpenter shops, furniture factories, etc. They can be trimmed to size using school or school board equipment. Contact cement or white glue is a good bonding agent for the wood and lino.

Secondly, the printing surface of the block has to be flocked, since lino is not sufficiently absorbent to hold sufficient quantities of dye to print well on the fabric. The flocking process is quite simple. It consists of covering the printing surface of the block with a strong adhesive which is, while still wet, sprinkled with a powdered rayon known as flock. The powder will adhere to the block and provide an absorbent, felt-like surface which will pick up good quantities of dye and discharge it evenly onto the fabric. In order to produce the best possible printing surface the flocking process should be repeated twice. Twenty-four hours after the first flocking the block should be brushed to remove all excess powder. A second coat of adhesive can then be rolled on and the block turned face down on a layer of flock previously set on a sheet of paper. The block should be left in this position for 24 hours before lifting and brushing and cleaning all the lines of surplus flock. A further 24 hours should pass before the block is used for printing.

PRINTING BY LINO BLOCKS

A dye pad is required for printing. This is a piece of 3/4-inch plywood somewhat larger than the blocks to be printed. This is covered with a layer of vinyl which is tacked around the edges of the block. The vinyl is, in turn, covered with a layer of thick felt or blanket to receive the dye. (Raised edges may be put around the block to prevent any slipping of the dye-impregnated blanket.) A different piece of felt should be used for each colour to be printed.

Dyestuff is then brushed onto the surface of the felt until it is well impregnated. The lino block is then placed on the felt, printing surface down, and impressed into it so that a good quantity of the dye is transferred to the flocked surface. When this has been done the block can be placed on the fabric and, while held with one hand, be given a few vertical knocks with a mallet with the other. This savage act will transfer the dyestuff to the fabric. Subsequent brushings of the felt should be made prior to the block being impressed into it before printing.

Most block prints will probably be simple repeats and so problems of difficult registration of each impression will be unlikely to crop up.

Materials required

- Lino blocks mounted on 3/4-inch plywood
- White glue or contact cement
- Flocking powder and adhesive
- Mallet
- Wood block, vinyl and felt for dye pad
- 2-inch brush
- Rubber roller and glass inking slab (for block adhesive)

THE FASCINATING CRAFTS OF TIE & DYE

and Batik have flourished for many centuries in different parts of the world.

Tie-and-dye means exactly that. Fabric is tied, folded, bound, knotted, sewn, or otherwise held, so that when the whole piece goes into the dye bath, colour does not penetrate the tied areas and the combination of dyed and undyed shapes forms interesting and colourful patterns. In Batik, areas of the fabric are coated with wax to resist the effect of the dye solution.

Each of these resist-dye methods gives an infinite variety of designs, simple or complex, offering limitless scope to the adventurous.

THE PROCESS OF TIE-DYEING

Wash and iron cloth. Mark out the design in pencil. Tie up the sample, dye, rinse, wash, untie.

Dyeing Method

- 1 tin of dye = 10 gms., 1/3 oz. or 2 level teaspoons
- 4 tablespoons salt = approx. 112 gms. or 4 ozs.
- 1 tablespoon soda = approx. 42 gms. or 1-1/2 ozs.

The amounts stated make 2 pints strong dye liquor. The proportion of dye, salt and soda for smaller or larger amounts should be as above.

Dissolve 1 tin dye in 1 pint warm water. Stir. Dissolve 4 tablespoons common salt and 1 tablespoon common soda in 1 pint hot water. Stir and cool. When the sample is ready and NOT BEFORE, mix the two solutions together. Wet the sample and dye for 1/2 hour to 1 hour. Stir for the first 10 minutes and then at intervals. For even greater penetration of dye or for bulky samples, enter them DRY into the dyebath.

When dyeing is finished, lift out the sample and rinse until the water clears. Cover the sample with boiling water (hot for silk and wool), add detergent and leave for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Rinse well and dry (A). Untie and rinse (B). When the sample has been untied a second hot wash is beneficial.

After the final rinse iron the sample while damp to remove the creases. When a second colour is to be dyed, add binding at point (A) to the areas where the first colour is to be reserved, or completely re-tie the sample at point (B), arranging the parts that need more colour to the outside of the bundle.

Repeat the dyeing process for the second colour. To unne the sample, cut the thread at the fastening-off knot. Unwind the thread, tying the pieces together for further use.

Once the soda is added, the dye is only effective for two to three hours. If the dye must be mixed sometime before it is needed, put the dye solution and the salt and soda solution in two separate bottles, mixing equal quantities of each as required. Tightly corked like this the dye can be used over several days. If only part of a tin of dye is used, keep the remainder in an air-tight container. DYLOX COLD WATER DYES are ideal for cotton, linen, viscose, rayon and will also dye silk and wool.

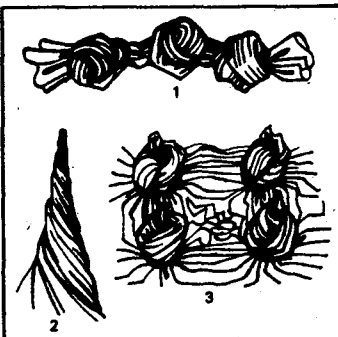
TIE-AND-DYE TECHNIQUES

Knitting

Tie a test knot to see how much cloth it takes — then mark position of knots.

Method 1

Fold the cloth in half lengthwise, twist it and tie a knot on the first mark. Repeat along the sample leaving a gap between the knots (Fig. 1).



Method 2

Pick up a point of cloth, twist it (Fig. 2), and tie a knot. Repeat where planned on the sample (Fig. 3). If the knot is tied in the middle of a rectangle of cloth, tie other knots at each corner (Fig. 4).

For all methods: — tighten the knots and dye the first colour. Rinse and untie. Re-tie the knots as before, then dye the second colour. Rinse. Wash in hot water. Dry. Untie by twisting the cloth on each side of the knots back into it as if turning a screw. The knot then becomes loose enough to untie. Wash, rinse and dry.

Stripes

For all binding use strong cotton, linen thread, etc., gather up (Fig. 5), or pleat the cloth lengthwise (Fig. 6). Tie on the thread at one end (Fig. 5). At intervals make (a) narrow line bindings, (b) bands of solid binding, (c) criss-cross bindings or a mixture of all three types (Fig. 6). Fasten off. Dye.

Before dyeing further colours add to or alter the bindings. If a slip knot is made over each binding the thread can be taken across without being cut and used for the next binding (this applies to all methods).

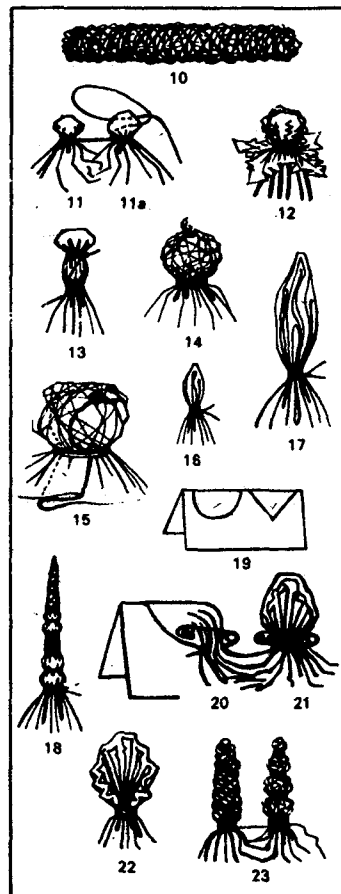
Squares

Fold a square of fine cloth into four, then across to form a triangle. Bind all the corners and dye (Fig. 7). Try folding the square in other ways.

Marbling (a)

Small sample. Bunch up the cloth in the hands. Tie on the thread. Bind in all directions making it into a solid ball (Fig. 8).

Large sample. Place the cloth flat on a table. Working from side to side, pick up points of cloth at intervals and form them into a roll, tucking in the selvages, (Fig. 9). Put a loose binding on while working.



When all the cloth is bunched up, add more binding to make a firm roll (Fig. 10).

For both methods: — Dye first colour. Rinse and untie. Rearrange the cloth and re-tie before dyeing second colour.

Clump Tying (b)

Small objects such as pebbles, corks, buttons, rice, etc., can be tied in the cloth. Mark their positions, with pencil dots. Put an object under the cloth at the first dot and tie the thread round it (Fig. 11). Take the thread along and bind the next one in place. Make a slipknot over it (Fig. 11a). Bind each object in this way working from side to side or from the middle outwards.

Variations: — Cover the tied-in object with a piece of polythene and bind (Fig. 12). Make a double binding (Fig. 13). Bind one stone above the other (Fig. 14). Pleat the cloth covering the object and bind over the top (Fig. 15). Dye.



Circles (c)

Pick up a point of cloth. Tie on the thread, near the point for a small circle (Fig. 16), and further away for a larger one (Fig. 17). Bind up to the point and back again using the type of binding required for the design (Fig. 18).

Fasten off. Dye. Add to or alter bindings before dyeing further colours.

Ovals and Diamonds (d)

Fold the cloth along the centre of the shape. Draw half the oval or diamond against the fold (Fig. 19). Weave a safety pin in and out along the pencil line (Fig. 20). Close the pin (Fig. 21). Tie the thread on below the pin (Fig. 22). Remove the pin. Bind the fan-like shape as required and fasten off (Fig. 23). Repeat for each shape. Dye. Add to or alter bindings before dyeing further colours.

BATIK

Wash and iron the cloth. Stretch it on a frame or place it on a newspaper and pin firmly on a board (remove for dyeing).

Heat 4 parts of paraffin or candle wax and 1 part beeswax until a blue film rises. Keep the bowl over gentle heat while working, or in a saucepan of simmering water.

Waxing the Cloth

- a) Wax can be painted over pencil or chalk outlines with a fine brush or a tjanting tool.
- b) Wax can be applied to the cloth through a stencil cut in thin cardboard.
- c) Wax can be brushed round a cardboard shape pinned to the sample.
- d) Imprints from corks, etc., dipped in the hot wax can be assembled to form designs on the cloth.
- e) Lines can be hatched into waxed areas with a pointed object.
- f) Any area of wax, when cold, can be cracked by squeezing it.
- g) Hot wax can be spotted or dribbled on to the cloth to form a texture.

Batiks should be kept flat while dyeing. Prepare dye as for tie-dyeing. Leave to cool. Dye for 1/2 hour to 1 hour. Rinse thoroughly. Before dyeing a second colour apply wax over the area to be reserved, then repeat the dyeing process. An extra colour can be painted over small areas. Make several applications of a concentrated dye drying in between each.

Put sample flat on a newspaper or in the sink and gently scrape off the wax to use again. Rinse. Cover with boiling water, add detergent — leave for 5 minutes. Rinse, then iron between newspaper.

A cloth which has a tie-dyed pattern can be used as a background for batik.

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d.c.

Is this election necessary?

WE shall shortly be asked to participate in the one-man no-vote flapdoodle that has been concocted for us by the Congress in the name of home rule. The congressional delegate legislation doesn't have much to do with home rule, of course, and unless you happen to be one of the 20 or so local citizens who are presently thinking about becoming full-time politicians, it is reasonable to ask whether this election is necessary. The amount of time, money and effort that is about to be expended on what will amount to little more than a political beauty contest will undoubtedly be unduly extravagant. But there's nothing much we can do about it now. If we don't vote, it will be held against us. If we vote wrong, we'll be giving some local quisling a two year sinicure at \$40,000 plus. So we might as well get into the fray and try to enjoy it as best we can.

First, a few general principles:

- The best that a delegate can do is to help DC obtain statehood. We shall be lucky if even one candidate even intimates that statehood would be a good idea, but they should all be forced to reveal just what they mean when they talk about home rule. This will help to reveal the extent of each candidate's colonial mentality.

- Most of the candidates will talk vigorously about what they can do for Washington. Voters will be warned away from militants who might alienate the venerable vizars on the Hill. This should be treated with the contempt it deserves. It's time for a little more alienating and a little less grovelling. The local pragmatists have helped to drive this city into the ground be-

cause they have refused to stand up to congressional extortion in one form or another.

- The candidates should be asked a number of key questions, all beginning with "Where were you when..." "...Congress was ramming freeways down our throats?" "...the DC crime bill was being passed?" "...plans were being made for Ft. Lincoln?" "...a school board was being elected?" And so forth. The answers should cut down the possibilities considerably.

Now, the candidates:

- Walter Washington. If Walter has a modicum of integrity he'll run on the ticket of the Republican party which is where he's been the past couple of years. If he has any grace, he won't run at all. But knowing Walter, that would be too much to expect. Won't someone please find him a nice foundation job, quick?

- Channing Phillips. The front runner of the liberals, Channing is charming, often on the right side of issues, but equally often over-polite and ultra cautious. If this were a race for an important job, say for mayor, Phillips would probably be the best choice who would still have a chance to win. But since the stakes aren't that high, it might be better to take a flyer on some one who hits harder and closer to the mark.

- Sterling Tucker. Sterling is not as bad as some people think and not as good as he thinks. Has a strong tendency to be here today, gone tomorrow on issues.

- Joseph Yeldell. Joe Yeldell has been fading fast ever since he caved in on the freeway matter. His recent statement that he would leave the City Council before voting in favor of more freeways merely adds to the impression that he would rather quit than fight. When he's on the right side, and he often is, he is an excellent advocate, but he's missed out on some key fights.

- Various white candidates ranging from good, Polly Shackleton, to bad, Gilbert Hahn and Joe Dansansky (yes, he really is thinking about it). There are already too many whites running the District from Congress.

There may come a day when we can rise above ethnic politics, but it seems advisable to rise to it first.

• Julius Hobson and Marion Barry.

Julius and Marion are probably the two outstanding black activists in town. Either one of them fully deserves the seat, and the larger forum that would come with it. They'd have a hard time getting elected, but don't underrate them in a wide open election with the probability of a run-off.

To be continued, no doubt.

D.C. news notes

- IT was a bum tip from an informer that was the basis for the warrant issued for the no-knock raid that preceded the trouble up on 14th St. the other night. On such meagre evidence, the police hammered in a door, removed furniture and got themselves into more than they had anticipated. This sort of gestapo tactic can be expected to increase when no-knock becomes really legal in February. Is gestapo too strong a word? What if that informer had given police your address?

- NO tears over the transfer of Owen Davis to the patrol division. As head of the cop's riot division, Davis was often an aggravating factor in disturbances.

- ONCE again, city officials are running away from the freeway battle before it is joined. If Congress orders the city to build the North Central Freeway, the District Building could go to court, just like community groups have done in these many years. But no, Walter Washington says there's nothing he can do, so he'll help to build the road. And Joe Yeldell says he'll quit the Council rather than vote for more freeways. Big deal.

- BILL Rasberry points out that one of the excerpts from the reading comprehension test given DC students as part of the implementation of the Clark plan went like this: "The thing I remember best about our summer vacation in Europe was my ride on a Telepherique, an aerial railroad which climbs right up the side of a mountain on a cable. In August we took a bus from Geneva, Switzerland, around Lake Geneva to the French city of Chamonix, which is in the valley below Mont Blanc." Dig it?

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Washington Gas

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY

●PACIFICA radio is trying to work out an agreement that will result in the National Education Foundation's withdrawal from competition for the last FM broadcast frequency here. Watch for a big attack on Pacifica even so. The subscriber-supported radio network believes too much in free speech for Richard Nixon's tastes.

●THE appointees for the vacancies on the court were pretty much as expected: too white, too old, too suburbanite. Obviously, the administration feels that the best way to law and order is through political hackism.

●THE House has passed a bill that would allow Puerto Rico's non-voting delegate to vote in committee. Any bets as to whether Congress will grant the same right to the District's voteless wonder?

'Civilisation'

AMERICA'S mass culture feeds the low-brows a poor but steady diet of situation comedies and other contemporary crap. That's not good enough for America's self-styled highbrows whose tastes are provided for by the separate "educational" networks like Washington-based WETA, which gives the upper classes the BBC-import "The Forsythe Saga," leaving the networks with their counterpart, "Peyton Place."

Both the media for the masses (ABC, NBC and CBS) and the classes (WETA) are designed to pacify our heads, to keep our minds off -- or at least to distort -- the unpleasant realities of our society. Here comes the BBC-produced magnum opus, "Civilisation," a 13 part series on the greatness of Western society as revealed through its art. The series is narrated by dry witted and snobbish British art historian Sir Kenneth Clark and is paid for by the erudite bosses of the liberal Xerox Corporation.

The "Civilisation" series has already been a smash hit with Washington's high culture crowd. It played to large audiences last fall and spring at the National Gallery of Art. Now WETA and 191 other educational TV stations will show each of the 13 segments twice a week. In addition to the forthcoming TV saturation, the DC public libraries plan showings of the series, mainly in their white branches. Joel Broyhill's constituents can see the series, too: the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association will bring the film to Hammond High School in Alexandria.

Sir Kenneth Clark explains that his extensive survey of art in Western civilization is intended to provide a look at "some of the ways man (sic) has shown himself (sic) to be an intelligent, creative, orderly and compassionate (sic) animal." Translated into the everyday, "Civilisation" is intended to show white Western man how damn refined and "civilized" he is, to reinforce his haughty ethnocentric view of his own predestined role as leader of the master race. "Civilisation" is an altogether appropriate program to offer to an American audience during these days of the American empire. It doesn't take much for the average educated American white male viewer to "see" that his culture is the logical successor of Greek, Roman and Renaissance cultures. After viewing the segment focusing on Thomas Jefferson's architectural genius some might almost conclude that we white males are indeed the 20th century's version of Greek gods. There is, of course, another side of Western society which is not "civilized" and which is not told by our official culture. It is not the glorification of how "intelligent, creative, orderly and compassionate" Western man is, but rather it is the story of a society which has frequently betrayed all these values in its oppression of minority racial, cultural and sexual groups. That centuries-old history of struggle against exploitation still continues but it is nowhere found in the dangerously misleading "Civilisation" series.

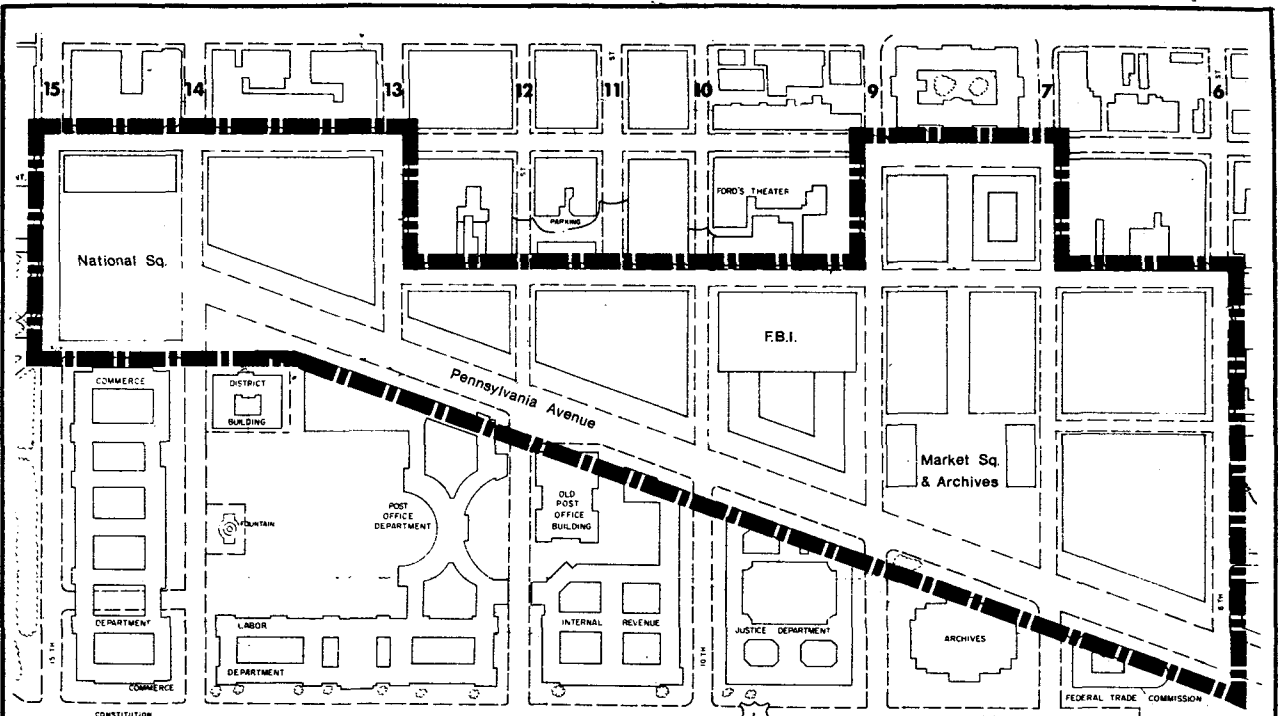
(MALCOLM KOVACS)

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A city for sale

PRESIDENT Nixon, who talks alot about downtown crime in Washington, is attempting to stage DC's largest downtown robbery to date. In the name of the Bicentennial, progress, and the national interest, the Nixon Administration wants Congress to pass a measure that would effectively remove a large portion of the center city (see chart above) from local control and turn it over to a Federal Bicentennial Development Corporation whose members would be hand-picked by the White House. Not only would this be a juicy plum for the GOP to slice up for its developer friends, it would almost certainly have the effect of downgrading the priority of much more badly needed development along 7th, 14th and H Sts.

While the legislation makes some token gestures toward citizen participation, and although the National Capital Planning Commission and the City Council would have to approve any plan before it was put into effect, the real control of the development of Pennsylvania Ave. would rest with men and special interests who lack an intrinsic stake in the future of Washington as a community (as against a tourist attraction or a shopping area for suburbanites moving safely in and out via the subway).

President Nixon is obviously desirous of building a monument to himself. Project planner Nat Owings has compared the bicentennial project to the work of Pope Sixtus V in the development of Rome. (The comparison is perhaps unconsciously apt: Sixtus spent huge sums on monuments, was for several years a counselor to the Inquisition, and was so concerned with creating a budget surplus that business in the Papal States went to pot.) To satisfy such delusions, the people of Washington are being told to hand over a portion of their center city to a corporation in which they will have no power, and whose basic raison d'etre is national glory, political prestige and financial profit, rather than the organic revival of a dying city.

It is true, as some supporters of the project have argued, that the money that will flow into the downtown areas as a result of the project is not likely to be forthcoming unless we do it Nixon's way. But how many times will the city be blackmailed before it holds its ground? It's the Natcher gambit all over again: do it our way or starve. Sorry about how slow things are moving up on 14th St. but how about a pretty national plaza, a monumental avenue, and acres of parking? The craven colonials dive for the crumbs that are scattered before them and call it progress.

A part of Washington's planning problems relate to downtown. But only a part. The revival of the city does not require new plazas and monumental avenues. It requires jobs, housing, adequate services, and an end to political servitude, together with commercial development. The Nixon Administration is unwilling to commit itself to any but the last goal. It is willing to rebuild a central business district and a tourist enclave, but while these have merit, the value does not justify the sacrificing of the redevelopment of black Washington. This appears to be what is happening.

And not just downtown. On September 16, the Redevelopment Land Agency voted to place the Fort Lincoln area entirely in the hands of a private developer. Remember Ft. Lincoln? The new town in-town? After spending \$1 million in planning funds, HUD and RLA have quietly worked out a scheme to reduce Ft. Lincoln to the status of another hunk of real estate put on the block. RLA expects bids from Rouse (of Columbia, Md.), Boise-Cascade and Levitt and Sons. From new town to Levittown. That's quite a come-down in just three years.

Perhaps it won't be too bad. If Mr. Rouse gets the contract, it might even be quite attractive. But for a city that is supposed to be working its way towards home rule there seems to be an awful lot of land over which it is losing even a marginal say. It is clear that Mr. Nixon is less concerned with saving Washington than with selling it.

DC DRAMA

THE lights go down and a recording of Johnny Cash is heard singing "Folsom Prison" to an appreciative audience of inmates during one of his recent tours of U.S. penitentiaries. So opens Back Alley's presentation of Fortune and Men's Eyes, a convincingly realistic drama of cell life as seen through the eyes of author John Herbert. Herbert, an ex-convict himself, has used his experience in a Canadian reformatory to demonstrate the affect that an influential sub-culture group--in this instance homosexual inmates as well as sadistic guards--can have on the individual.


Smitty (played by Richard Harmel), sent up on a minor theft charge and relatively innocent to the ways of the more hardened inmates, quickly learns the means of survival in the prison and masters the rules of his new culture. While he succeeds at becoming big man of the cell block having beaten Rocky (played by David Evans) at his 'what I take is mine' game, and making Queenie (Jon Wildes) whose second act show-stopping song, "A Hard Man is Good to Find," is pathetically hilarious camp, he is brought to his knees by the beautiful Mona Lisa.

Through the Mona Lisa, Herbert injects the possibility of a human relationship that goes beyond the physical -- as Mona puts it, "to feel with the mind." Therefore, he rejects Smitty's advances and chooses to keep his physical and spiritual energies separate. Samuel D. Love is a moving and sensitive Mona; however, the last scene could have developed more gradually (in the writing, perhaps, as well as in the direction) so that we would be better prepared to accept the highly emotional ending.

The Back Alley Theatre serves as a perfect house for the action of this intimate play, and designer Gordon Kennedy's set makes us feel this closeness. The author's use of 'jail bird language' is rich in poetic images and enhances the depth and realism of the play. The Fortune in Men's Eyes is well worth seeing.

(SALLY CROWELL)

DEADLINE for announcements and advertising for the next issue: Oct. 6



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Another bit of patronage

PRESIDENT Nixon is making sure that DC public officials continue to represent private interests rather than to promote the needs of the needy. The latest example of this is the mid-September appointment of Jeremiah Colwell Waterman, sixty-six, to a three year term--at \$26,500 a year--to the city's misnamed Public Service Commission (PSC), the nominal regulator of the city's uncontrolled utilities, C & P Telephone, Washington Gas Light Co., and PEPCO.

Waterman's "qualifications" are his corporate and political connections: he has

been vice chairman of the DC Republican Central Committee and is now a big-time lawyer with the powerful Washington law firm of Steptoe and Johnson, where he represents the likes of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Waterman is replacing William Porter, a Negro Democratic lawyer and accountant appointed to the PSC in 1966 by LBJ. Porter was at least a mild critic of the utilities' uncontrolled greed and a moderate foe of their racist hiring and promotion policies.

Would it be any better if appointments to the PSC were made by Commissioner Washington instead of the white White House?

Probably not, judging by Little Walter's own appointments of conservative GOP lawyers and Negro bureaucrats who are as aggressive, creative and sensitive as he is.

(MALCOLM KOVACS)

Pollution Workshop

Help organize citizen action to fight D.C. air pollution--specific problems--how to tackle them. Everyone ♀♀ is invited.

Join Circle-on-the-Hill at Friendship House auditorium 619 D Street southeast, at 8pm. Wednesday, October 21.

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D.C. CALENDAR

CIRCLE-on-the-Hill is looking for volunteers to help in a high school counselling project particularly involving college-bound students. No experience necessary. Info: Nancy MacRae, 543-3431.

IF you want to help defeat Joel Broyhill, send money or give volunteer time to the Citizens for Miller Committee, 5827 Columbia Pike, Bailey's Crossroad, VA. 22041. (820-0266). Non-Virginia volunteers are welcome.

DC residents who think they were missed in this year's census are being asked to contact their local anti-poverty center or call 638-5983.

A GROUP of students at George Washington U. are organizing a counter-demonstration to the "March for Victory" being organized by Rev. Carl McIntire for Oct. 3.

THERE will be a City Council hearing on Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. & 2 p.m. to consider proposals to regulate the disposal of non-returnable bottles and cans. The DC government estimates that there will be 58.1 billion non-returnable containers being used annually by 1976, an increase of 127% over the 1967 level. Those who wish to testify should call 638-2223. Written statements may be submitted for the record.

THE League of Women Voters has prepared a pamphlet on DC self-government. 50¢ from LWV, 1346 Conn. Ave. NW. Room 730 Wash. DC 20036.

RAP House, a residential center for persons with drug problems, has been established at 1904 T NW, (234-8011). The Rap Shop, a counselling center, has also been opened at 2435 18th NW (667-3500).

THE Urban Service Corps is holding a series of workshops for volunteers working with school children on Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 7, 13 and 14 at various locations. Info: Jessie Tromberg, 554-3434.

WASHINGTON war tax resisters rechannel their war money to the Wash. War Tax Alternate Fund. To find out how to refuse your money for militarism and spend it instead for human needs, contact WWTR, 120 Md. Ave. NE, DC 20002. (546-8840 or 546-6231)

NGUYEN Cao Ky, who thinks Americans are not dying fast enough in his behalf will appear Oct. 3 at a Washington rally sponsored by Rev. Carl McIntire. The rightist reverend promises that Ky will "out-Agnew Agnew" at the rally to be held at the Washington Monument.

THE DC Citizens for Better Public Education has prepared a summary of the Clark Plan which is available from its office at room 214, 95 M SW. (484-7030)

THE EMERGENCY Committee on the Transportation Crisis has developed a slide show on the local transportation situation. It tells how the freeway system affects various neighborhoods, explains the politics of transportation planning, identifies the highway lobby. Info: Lou Robinson, 3728 Jocelyn NW, DC 20015. (362-5380).

THE next session of the Revolutionary People's Constitutional Convention is tentatively set for Washington on Nov. 4.

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Next issue deadline: October 6

A PUBLIC INTEREST LEGAL OPINION ADDRESSED

to any D.C. resident who wishes to adopt a child

It is a sad fact that the District of Columbia keeps a larger proportion of its children in public institutions than any other American city.

It is also a sad fact that permanent damage is being done to the physical, mental and emotional health of helpless children—children who never asked to be born—whose parents are unable or unwilling to care for them and who are therefore placed in Junior Village or the receiving home or D.C. General Hospital.

One solution to this tragic problem is adoption. But many people who would like to adopt a child have been wrongly discouraged, wrongly led to believe they would not be suitable parents.

Specifically, you may have been told that you are not able to adopt a child if

- You are single.

- You are "too old".
- You are of a different race or religion than the child.
- You and your spouse are both working.
- You have been the child's foster parent.

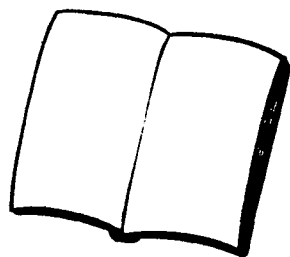
None of these is a legal reason for preventing you from adopting a child.

An attorney with the Stern Community Law Firm is prepared to provide free legal services to parents who would like to adopt a child as well as to prospective parents who feel they would be unable to care for their children and do not want them sent to a public institution.

We are not a child placement agency, but we want to be sure you know and are granted your rights under the law.

If you want free legal assistance in placing a child in an adoptive or a foster home, please call or write:

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In the summer. At the Circle.

THOMAS SHALES

IT is Sunday, it is summer, and I am sitting on a bench at Dupont Circle.

I like the way the pigeons swoop overhead, and the way they hop along on the top of the fountain. Below them, kids, seeing no cops around, splash in the water. African drums in the background, and sometimes a corner carillon playing, of all things, "The Heather on the Hill."

The breeze picks up. A balding man with thick glasses and saggy pants is putting a Sunday Post together from sections he fishes out of trash baskets. The tourists parade, Instamatics poised and ready. Frisbees are whizzin' around out on the grass. A guy with a friendly red mustache sits next to me.

"Mannnn," he says, "When you get up-tight, you can just come out here and say, 'Fuck it, 'man!'" He opens his eyes a little wider; he isn't wearing sunglasses like I am. A little later, two girlies come over and ask how he wants his laundry done.

Spanish girls are laughing together; servicemen on leave are trying to look like street people, and failing; people carry their own music--radios, tape recorders--and there is "peace" and "love" on their backs. Some of the bluejeans are straining to hold themselves together.

It gets dark soon and turns to night. Still, the drums. There is silent lightning in a deep blue sky--no thunder, no rain. "Do you know a guy named Scott who hangs out at the Free Clinic?" a kid asks me. Another looks into my face; "Hey, haven't I seen you someplace before? Do you live around here?" A black guy has picked up a guitar and is showing off for about six other people. He sings "Everybody's Talkin'" from Midnight Cowboy. But he forgets some of the words: "I'm goin' where the hmmm hmmm hmmm hmmm, through the hmm hmm hmmm...." Another cat has his guitar strapped to his back and wears a fringed buckskin jacket and a flamenco hat. Won't somebody please ask him to play?

A wino tells me he just stomped a man's brains out behind a bush in another part of town. "Cop came round and asked me if I had any blood on my shoes," he says. "There weren't any blood on my shoes. I jes stamped his brains out. I waited til he was asleep. I bought him some wine and he went to sleep alright. He and another guy, they jumped me bout three weeks ago. Took all my money and beat me up. I jes got out of the hospital, an' I stomped his brains out." He takes a can of Solox cleaning fluid from under his coat and, with help from another man, mixes it, in a bottle, with water, and drinks it. The neon lights make his whiskers sparkle.

"Do you hate the black man?" another man asks me, another night. "You don't hate the black man, do ya? I got me a 18 thousand dollar home and a wife." I say no, I do not hate the black man. Nearby, a woman is screaming random threats and insults. First she is talking about Mae West. The she tells a group of men, who are egging her on, that they absolutely cannot see her tits. One of the men grabs her and she spits out curses while everyone laughs. She just keeps yelling, on and on, not really angry, not really hysterical, but always yelling.

In the daytime, the dogs come. Affluent Afghans; masterful German shepards; dogs that are little and rodent-like; shaggy, mutty everydogs, too. With their owners, they approach the fountain in the Circle's center like it was the source of all life, like all the city radiated out from this spot.

On Sunday, the preacher is there. His suitcoat is buttoned, no matter how hot it

is, and he carries his Bible in his hand as he patrols the middle perimeter of the circle, he keeps walking, looking around, not talking, and then, wham! He stops and starts shouting. God, he talks about, and sin, and corruption, and hell, and born-again, and the way, and the truth. Drunks jeer him; he is unruffled. Hippies scoff; he is not swayed. When the crowd in one direction turns cynic, he slowly changes his stance, moving almost imperceptibly around until he no longer faces them. One Sunday, at the end of his sermon, he talks with a hippie about religion for almost an hour, and then he leaves, smiling and pink.

If you have any spare change at the Circle, it doesn't last long. The girl in the green polo shirt--a pocket concealing one nipple, but the other one pressing through the cotton on its side--needs it for something to eat. One old man demands my spare change, growling, and he doesn't say "spare change." I tell him I've spent my last quarters to buy the New York Times, which I am holding. "Alright," he says, "Gimme the paper and I'll sell it."

The drums, the breeze, the dogs, the hippies, the babies in strollers reaching out at everything, the gay fellows with slick legs on their way to the P Street Beach, the fat little boy and girl tormenting the pigeons with stones, and wandering photographers thinking they can take some of this home with them and put it on a wall or in a book. And the cops--separating lovers, ordering feet out of the fountain, twirling clubs while their walkie-talkies spoil the quiet with sputtering. Some try to be part of this scene but others--the paunchy, pekid ones

--try to look menacing and sometimes drag winos off to the little police station across the street where EVERYBODY knows the men's room has a two-way mirror.

A one-armed man is sitting next to me on the fountain. It is afternoon, and, one-at-a-time, wasps float up to the fountain, land, approach the water carefully, and appear to drink. "Why'd they haveta kill Bobby?" the one-armed man is whining now. why'd they haveta killum? Why'd they haveta killum?" The he tells me, "I have a big dick," and offers to share it. "No thanks," I say; I have finished with my Peoples Drug Store Milkshake and move away.

A young couple are displaying their children near the fountain; the father swings his little girl through the air and she squeals. The breeze dies down now. A boy alone on one bench picks at a guitar. A chess game is in progress on another bench. A girl is telling a boy about the best high she ever had on another, and there is a lot of wow involved. One chalk-white fellow with a crew cut is reading the "White Power" newspaper, but all folded up, so most people can't tell. Later, a bunch of Jesus freaks from California will sing "The Impossible Dream" and four people will applaud.

It is a free scene--shirtless, sandalled, open, warm. Four guys walk through the circle, hair down to the packs on their backs, and one shouts to another, in front of him, "Hey, Paul--are you sure this is America?"

Hey, Paul.

Films: the slumlords

JOEL E. SIEGEL

ONE reason why we have so few convincing movies about the relationships of black and white Americans is, of course, because so few personal relationships of this kind exist in our society. The most frequent connection, and the one which inspires so much racial hostility, is that of the white property owner in the black ghetto. Two new films, both comedies with cores of seriousness, treat this subject and both, despite some major flaws, are very much worth seeing. Neither, however, quite manages to compare with Edward Lewis Wallant's novel, The Tenants of Moonbloom, which is in many ways the prototype of such stories and which, by the way, is scheduled for filming sometime in the coming year.

Hal Ashby's The Landlord is the attempt of a white filmmaker to adopt a black vision. Uneven in tone but always hard and unsentimental, The Landlord manages to go beyond the racist didacticism of militant black films like Right On! (which, incidentally, also has a white director) to offer us at least a passing glance at some possible hope of future racial concord. Of all commercial American films touching upon racial problems, The Landlord is the only one I know to suggest the only lasting solution to all of our current mistrust and hatred--intermarriage and a new world filled with beautiful mocha babies.

The Landlord, which tells of the adventures of a rich, doltish young man who buys a crumbling ghetto brownstone in New York City, does little to sweeten up the harsh realities of presentday black-white confrontation for comic purposes. The schism--total and, at present, probably insurmountable--is evident in every frame of the film. (The insularity of whites is splendidly indicated by a recurrent image of a sun-drenched suburban classroom with a white teacher asking, "Children, how do we live?") Because Ashby doesn't indulge in all of that false, white liberal, buddy-buddy stuff, we aren't at all degraded by the film as we are by junk as A Patch of Blue and Guess Who's Coming to

Dinner? As one writer has observed, The Landlord is the only racial film so far after which whites and blacks can look at one another in the lobby without intense feelings of embarrassment or shame. In fact, in some cases, there just might be a spark or two of recognition.

What's good about the film is so glowingly evident as to render itemizing irrelevant. Pearl Bailey and Lee Grant share a drunken afternoon so completely, fracturingly hilarious that one must wander back to the days of Preston Sturges to find a comparable encounter. There is marvelous ensemble acting by a large cast headed by Diana Sands and, although one sometimes tired of Beau Bridges' bumbling, aging innocent, that is more the fault of script than actor. Still, there are a number of problems with form, style and detail which combine to prevent the film from realizing its full possibilities. There's the problem of Gordon Willis, to my way of thinking, the most lavishly gifted of younger American cinematographers. When Willis shot Loving for Irvin Kershner, the veteran director was able to keep him in check, but under newcomer Ashby, Willis' work is too flamboyant and exhibitionistic to serve the film's best interests. Each shot is a model of imaginative composition, but who wants to fight all of that compositional and coloristic invention in order to get to what's really great in the film, the moving humanity of Miss Sands and Miss Bailey? Willis' artiness is matched by the flashy, fashionably disjointed, post-Resnais editing style which, again, detracts from the material and the performers. (The worst bits of cinematic flimflammy are brave, unsuccessful attempts to cover up the screenplay's weakest spots--those sequences involving Bridges' romance with a beautiful mulatto dancer.) And there are insufficient words with which to convey a sense of the awfulness of Al Kooper's hackneyed, badly-recorded score which wastes

(Please turn to page 10)

films cont'd

the skills of such blues-pop performers as Lorraine Ellison.

Finally there is the uneasy question of the film's perspective. The Landlord's white creators, in attempting to approximate a black viewpoint, have placed a heavy load of what seems to be their own white-guilt and self-hatred onto the backs of their white characters. In a film of this kind, in which precision of social and physical detail is so very important, the whites, treated with something between sarcasm and surrealism, fail to convince on either a realistic or a metaphorical level. Why, for example, is the 29 year old landlord such a totally unformed lump? (All of the blacks, even the very young ones, are filled with ideas and attitudes. How did this man, on the threshold of middle-age, get so far without a single piece of useful knowledge or opinion?) Why does this classically WASP family contain Lee Grant playing the mother in a bold, emancipated suburban Jewish Mama style? (Certainly WASP and Kosher America have heavily contributed to the plight of blacks, but isn't it really a bit much to pile these two, quite distinctive guilts onto a single family?) The family scenes, symphonies of yellow-greens and whites, convey a strong sense of the razor-sharp planes of Anglo-Saxon faces as opposed to the smooth, rounded contours of the blacks, but the special pleading of a white filmmaker treating blacks realistically, even romantically, and then reducing the whites to hard-edged caricatures, is quite disturbing. Self-hatred, in art as in life, is hardly a position from which to begin accepting and loving others.

Leo the Last, directed by John Boorman (Point Blank) is visually and aurally the most exciting English language film I've seen in years. I caught the film in London and, although it opened in New York several months ago, it has yet to receive a local airing. I am writing about it now because, what with the dull title, unpromising cast and the generally unenthusiastic New York reviews, Leo the Last parallels The Landlord strikingly; it tells of an exiled nobleman who settles in his father's mansion, in the midst of a London slum. Boorman shows us the slow, steady growth of Leo's awareness allied with his neighbors, cheerfully plowing up his own lavish home. ("We didn't change the world," he remarks afterwards, "but we did change our street.") Stylishly, often surrealistically, Boorman, who is also responsible for part of the screenplay, reveals how a man can become aware of his complicity in a destructive system and then extricate himself by resuming responsibility for his own actions.

There is a massive hole in the screenplay into which a less-inventive film would surely collapse. Nothing of Leo's previous life is revealed to us, so that we have no basis upon which to understand his conversion and commitment. There is nothing to explain why he is so accessible to the needs of others while the rest of his entourage, and his mistress, represent capitalism red in tooth and cash register. Marcello Mastroianni as Leo, doesn't help matters with his wobbly, Peter Lorre-ish English and so, apart from some fine bits of physical comedy, for which the actor has a great flair, he can not provide what the screenplay lacks. The remainder of the cast is first-rate, although somebody seems to have drained most of the blood from Billie Whitelaw, so memorably womanly in Charlie Bubbles.

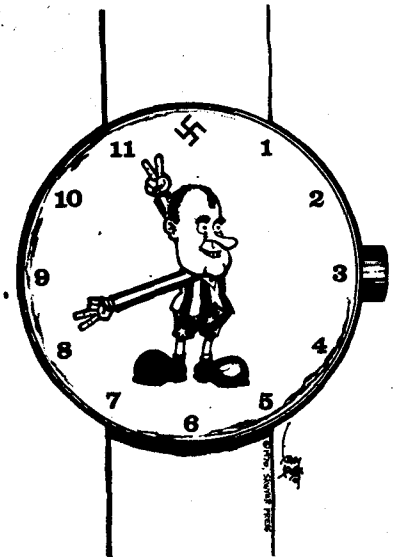
The soundtrack--an aural montage of wonderful blues-influenced pop songs, snippets from Dylan Thomas and T.S. Eliot, barely audible whisperings and chanted refrains--could not be more arresting. For once, a movie asks us to listen as carefully as we look. (Naturally the soundtrack has not been issued on records, although nearly

every other movie score, piles of treacle and slop is available.)

Visually, the film is every bit as impressive, shot almost exclusively in tones of blue, grey and black. (There is a particularly witty super market sequence from which virtually all of the expected brash, merchandising colors have been drained.) When, in the climax of the film, Leo is wounded and, for the first time, the screen is alive with scarlet, the reason for the tonal chilliness of Boorman's colors becomes wonderfully clear. It is this wound which seals Leo's commitment to the world of suffering about him. As in The Landlord, blacks are beautiful and somewhat romanticized while whites are harshly satirized. But Boorman takes care to establish a context for his scorn; he is not anti-white but is violently against the anti-human elements of white systems. The voraciousness and sterility of the white world, conveyed by a bizarre eating scene and an even odder episode of nude water therapy through which the rich are trying "to feel" again, are indicted for curative rather than nihilistic purposes.

Some, I suppose, will have strong intellectual reservations about Leo the Last; admittedly the film falls apart near the end-

ing and is somewhat too simplistic and schematic throughout, even for a fable. But I'll bet that many more will be as thrilled as I was by this artful, off-beat film with its echoes of King Of Hearts and Zazie Dans Le Metro.



Beyond burning bras

ERICA DUNN

DESPITE the fact that much has been written to explain Women's Liberation, the bra-burning, man-hating image of WL, perhaps most forcefully created by the media, is the one that comes to mind when most people think of WL.

The main complaint of people who come in contact with WL ideas have is that WL wants to do away with all the differences that exist between the sexes. They feel that the women in WL want to be exactly like men, that they in fact would love to be men.

When Women's Liberation says that women are equal to men and should have equality with men, this does not mean that they want to be identical, the same as men. It simply means that all people, women, men, whites, blacks, etc. should have equal social and political opportunities. It means that women who do the same jobs as men, should be paid the same, they should not be tracked in high schools to be secretaries and seamstresses while men are trained to be engineers. It certainly does not mean that women should begin growing beards and beating their husbands.

Women are different than men. One only needs eyes to see that. But the difference is one of biological organs. All the other stereotypes about women and men are social and not natural. For each sex stereotype--women are emotional and sensitive, and men are distant and logical; women are naturally more maternal (paternal) than men; etc.--there are millions of exceptions. Women and men learn their roles from society--they are not born to them.

Again, WL is not about making men like women or switching around the defined roles. But rather we would like to see the roles become more flexible.

There is no reason why a man who

feels strong emotions should be called a sissy, and a little girl who climbs trees a tomboy. We feel that the world is big enough for thousands of possible feelings and actions, and that the rigidity of the roles, as they exist now, is both unhealthy and unnecessary. There is a difference between men and women, but that difference should be up to each individual man and woman to determine.

Another misconception about WL is that the women in it hate men, and that, given the opportunity, they would mistreat men in the same way that many men mistreat women today. There are certainly some women in the movement who have been badly mistreated by men, and who have no great love for many men. But almost all the women in Women's Liberation realize that the solution to the problems they face does not lie in turning the tables and trying to enslave men. The answer lies in helping both men and women fight the real causes of the frustrations that make them take things out on their wives and children and selves.

We feel that all women are oppressed in this society as well as most men. Contrary to most people's beliefs, most women are not contented with their lot. They don't enjoy getting the worst jobs and the lowest pay, nor do they like getting beaten by an irate husband or boyfriend.

Staying home with the kids can be fulfilling at times, but as a steady diet it's a lot of hard work and drudgery. This does not imply that there aren't women who enjoy staying home and raising children. And they certainly should be allowed to do that, if that is their choice, and that is something that we in women's liberation consider absolutely essential.

There are certainly as many misconceptions about WL as there are people who have heard the words. It would be impossible to talk about all of them in one article. The most important thing that I want to stress is that we in WL don't have a new set of definitions to pin on the male and female. We want people to create their own identities without having to combat terrific social and legal pressures. Our hope is to create a society in which that will be possible.

(Harry)

THE McDOWELL PAPERS

CHARLES McDOWELL JR.

THE more I associate with the telephone, year after year, at home and at work, in good humor and bad, the more I realize what an astonishing device it is.

What a stupefying invention. Alexander Graham Bell has not even begun to achieve his rightful place in history.

Most Americans are well aware of the heavy and controversial roles that television and the computer, for example, play in their lives.

Our average citizen spends something like three hours a day watching television, denying it, discussing it and telling the children to turn it off. The same fellow is uneasily aware that computers are looking over his shoulder and having an impact on his affairs. Let a computer make a mistake on his telephone bill, and this man will raise the devil.

But Americans do not give much conscious thought to the telephone itself. And yet, unless I miss my guess, it is the telephone that will be recognized by historians of some future generation as the dominant electronic influence on this era of mankind.

The telephone is the basic means of person-to-person communication in America, and its importance can only increase as more people accept the idea that mail has failed.

The telephone is a marvelously democratic device that gives virtually everyone, rich and poor, busy and bored, adult and child, an equal chance to call up anyone else at any time and interrupt whatever he is doing.

In addition, the telephone provides a sort of built-in lottery that allows anyone to ring any wrong number in the United States. As distance dialing goes international, wrong numbers are, of course, becoming available all over the world.

American business spends fantastic amounts of money, time and talent trying to use the telephone efficiently. It spends slightly more money, time and talent trying to protect its people from the telephone.

The staff structure of a business concern is controlled less by the mission of the office than the necessity of protecting the more important members of the staff from the telephone. Many offices are no more than simple pyramids, receiving telephone calls at the big end and filtering them through the rest of the structure toward the small end.

The telephone allows a pretentious executive to become unbearable as he directs secretaries to place his calls and then keeps his victims waiting on the line until he has time for them. Unfortunately, the telephone makes some reasonable executives seem pompous as they throw up secretarial barriers to intercept calls from other executives' secretaries.

My studies indicate that at 11 a.m. on any Tuesday, 54 percent of the people in offices in the United States are holding the line waiting for somebody else to come on.

Private telephones at the same time, by the way, are 62 per cent in use by women who, when questioned closely under oath, will admit they were just chattering with friends and putting off the housework.

The most astonishing thing about the telephone is the breakthrough it has scored with respect to traditional American attitudes toward the home. That is, a man's house is his castle, except when you intrude by telephone.

On the telephone you can call a man out of the shower or away from his dinner table or out of his backyard where he is having a drink with the neighbors or a baseball game with the kids, and you can get him on the line without disclosing your business, and then you can brazenly offer to sell him a waterfront lot, a series of dancing lessons or a used car.

Incredible. The recent advances in the telephone have nothing to do with shaping it to any particular concept of privacy; rather, the advances run more to multiple push-buttons that allow officious people to impose on more people at the same time, and to little video screens that will allow us to see the whites of the eyes of the intruder selling waterfront lots. Incredible.

(Richmond Times-Dispatch)



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BABYSITTER needed to pick up and care for one child in Capitol Hill area, weekdays, 3-6 pm. Salary negotiable. For more information, call 659-1100 ext. 432 daytime; 561-3052 evenings.

SW Cooperative Nursery School has places available for 3 & 4 year olds. Scholarships also available. Contact Linda Barnes, 543-5592.

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Fall season just beginning. For brochure and more information please call Mrs. Joell Silverman, Director of the Sunday School, at 726-1745 or 882-6650.

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Candy Freeland/LNS

women's rights

HUMAN Rights for Women is a corporation organized to provide legal assistance without charge to women seeking to invoke their rights; to undertake relevant research and surveys; and to disseminate information concerning sex prejudice, the feminist movement and women's rights. Info: HRW Inc., P.O. Box 7402, Benjamin Franklin Sta. DC 20044.

lettuce strike

THE United Farmworkers are organizing a boycott against Purex products. Purex is a major lettuce grower and the UFWOC is attempting to gain bargaining rights in the lettuce fields as they did in the vineyards. Purex has had striking workers arrested and has fired some 150 of them. Here are some of the items that Purex sells: Purex Bleach, Brillo soap pads, Fresh Pict produce, Sweetheart soap, Trend, Brion Enzym, Pre-Soak, Cuticura, Doan's Pills, Vano starch, Beads-O-Bleach, Dutch Cleanser, 4 in 1 Fabric Finish, Ayds appetite depressant, Pursettes, Ferry Morse seeds, Brillo detergent. For more information, write United Farm Worker's Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, 708 Lydig Ave., Room 206, Bronx, NY 10462. (597-8850)

rail rider's journal

PASSENGER Train Journal is an interesting quarterly that promotes retention and improvement of passenger service on the rails. \$4 a year. Single copy: \$1. From PTJ, 3919 Bob-o-link Road, Flossmoor, Ill. 60422.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

drug disc

A GROUP called Do It Now has put out a record whose message is that speed kills. Do It Now is an organization dealing with the problems of hard drugs. No anti-pot slop. For a copy of the record (\$3) or for free information, contact Do It Now, Box 3573, Hollywood Calif. 90028.

radical theatre

UNIVERSAL Movement Theatre Repertory will arrange tours, one-night stands, radical festivals, benefits, lecture-demonstrations, workshops, film programs and conferences throughout the country. UMTR promises a "program to fit any organization." Groups presently in NY, NH, Calif. Mass. and Europe. Contact UMTR, 235 West. 15th S. (4A) NYC NY 10013. (212-691-9556).

problems of aged

LEGAL Research and Services for the Elderly (1627 K St. NW, Washington DC 20006; 202-783-6850) has prepared a working paper on "Legal Problems Affecting Older Americans" which is available from the Government Printing Office (Wash. DC 20402) for 30¢.

chicano film

THE National Chicano Moratorium is circulating a film on the second Chicano Moratorium demonstration held last February in Los Angeles. It can be rented or purchased from the National Chicano Moratorium, 4629 East Brooklyn, Los Angeles, Calif. 90022.

women's psych

THE Aug-Sept. issue of the Radical Therapist is devoted to women and psychology. \$1. Box 1215 Minot, ND 58701.

school undergrounds

A BOOKLET on how to publish a high school underground has been prepared by two recent high school graduates in cooperation with the Cooperative High School Independent Press Service. 25¢ for students and 50¢ for others from Al-Fadhly & Shapiro, 7242 W. 90th St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90045.



eco-votes

THE League of Conservation Voters has published a chart showing how members of the House voted on key conservation issues. The League is also seeking contributions and volunteers. LCV, 917 15th NW, DC 20005 (202-638-2525)

ecology pamphlet

THE Sierra Club has published a handbook for environmental activists. Called Ecotactics, it is available for \$1. Sierra Club, 235 Mass. Ave. NE, Wash. DC 20002

new schools

THE New Schools Exchange is a valuable guide to what's happening with new schools around the country. Job opportunities, free ads for persons seeking jobs. NSE, 301 E. Canon Perdido St. Santa Barbara, Calif. 03101. Five month subscription: \$5. Year subscription: \$10.

playground info

A LIST of manufacturers of playground equipment can be obtained from the Parks Council, 80 Central Park West, New York NY.

may 1 protest

RENNIE Davis has announced plans for a "non-violent, disruptive" demonstration in Washington next May 1. The plan is to include efforts to shut down major arteries in and around Washington during morning rush hour traffic. May 1 will be the first anniversary of the Cambodian invasion.

anti-war coalition

FIVE anti-war groups have joined together for a joint effort in the fall campaign. The five groups, under the name of the National Coalition for a Responsible Congress will launch a petition drive Oct. 3 that is aimed at raising funds for a media campaign against U.S. involvement in Indochina. Each person who signs the petition will be asked to donate at least 50¢.

The five groups are:

- Movement for a New Congress, which has provided election workers in 23 local races, 18 of which ended in victory.
 - The National Petition Committee, which has been raising funds and getting petitions signed.
 - The Universities' National Anti-War Fund, which has been seeking one day's pay from faculty members around the country to help finance anti-war candidates.
 - Continuing Presence in Washington, which took part in the lobbying on the Hill since last spring.
 - The Academic and Professional Alliance, an organization of anti-war lawyers, doctors, engineers and businessmen.
- Besides bringing these organizations together, the coalition has also enlisted the support of key union leaders such as Leonard Woodcock of the UAW and Jerry Wurf of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees. Other supporters include Ramsey Clark, Julian Bond, Sandy Gottlieb and Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr.

The petition that will be circulated states:

"We ask the United States Congress to assert its constitutional powers in matters of War and Peace, to condemn our continued presence in Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam, and to require the President to bring our troops home. We wish no further military involvement in Indochina."

The coalition is seeking volunteers to work between now and the elections. The New York office of the coalition is in room 1848, 20 West 43rd St., New York, NY 10036. (212-868-7680).

RADIC-LIBS UNITE! SUBSCRIBE TO THE GAZETTE